

Before the  
COPYRIGHT ROYALTY JUDGES  
Washington, D.C.

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the Matter of )

)  
Distribution of the )  
2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 )  
Cable Royalty Funds )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Docket No. 16-CRB-0009-CD (2014-2017)

**MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER, L.L.C.**  
**NOTICE OF CONTROVERSY RELATING TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE**  
**2014-2017 CABLE ROYALTY FUNDS**

Major League Soccer, L.L.C. (“MLS”), hereby submits its Notice of Controversy in response to the Copyright Royalty Judges’ (“Judges”) Scheduling Order and Notice of Voluntary Negotiation Period, dated April 5, 2021, in the above-noted, consolidated docket.

MLS, as represented by undersigned counsel, has claims to royalties awarded for live professional team sports broadcasts related to cable funds including 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2017. With respect to each year, MLS is aware of Distribution Phase controversies in the Joint Sports Claimants’ (“JSC”) category among MLS and other members of that group.

At this time, negotiations to resolve the allocation of funds within the JSC category have not concluded. MLS intends to continue to negotiate in good faith, but has not reached a Distribution Phase settlement with other JSC members, and while it remains optimistic that a settlement will be reached, it remains possible that a hearing may be necessary to resolve controversies including the amount of royalties to be allocated to MLS’s broadcasts.

If Distribution Phase hearings are held, then MLS intends to participate.

Respectfully submitted,

**MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER, L.L.C.**

July 15, 2021

/s/Edward S. Hammerman  
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*Counsel for Petitioner*

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of July, 2021, a copy of the foregoing Notice of Controversy was filed electronically using eCRB, which will automatically provide electronic service copies to all counsel of record who are registered to use eCRB. See 37 C.F.R. § 303.6(h)(1).

/s/Edward S. Hammerman

Edward S. Hammerman

# Proof of Delivery

I hereby certify that on Thursday, July 15, 2021, I provided a true and correct copy of the Major League Soccer Notice of Controversy 2014-2017 CD to the following:

Global Music Rights, LLC, represented by Scott A Zebrak, served via ESERVICE at [scott@oandzlaw.com](mailto:scott@oandzlaw.com)

Program Suppliers, represented by Lucy H Plovnick, served via ESERVICE at [lh@msk.com](mailto:lh@msk.com)

Canadian Claimants, represented by Lawrence K Satterfield, served via ESERVICE at [lksatterfield@satterfield-pllc.com](mailto:lksatterfield@satterfield-pllc.com)

SESAC Performing Rights, LLC, represented by John C. Beiter, served via ESERVICE at [john@beiterlaw.com](mailto:john@beiterlaw.com)

Devotional Claimants, represented by Matthew J MacLean, served via ESERVICE at [matthew.maclean@pillsburylaw.com](mailto:matthew.maclean@pillsburylaw.com)

Broadcast Music, Inc. (BMI), represented by Jennifer T. Criss, served via ESERVICE at [jennifer.criss@dbr.com](mailto:jennifer.criss@dbr.com)

ASCAP, represented by Sam Mosenkis, served via ESERVICE at [smosenkis@ascap.com](mailto:smosenkis@ascap.com)

National Public Radio, represented by Gregory A Lewis, served via ESERVICE at [glewis@npr.org](mailto:glewis@npr.org)

Commercial Television Claimants / National Association of Broadcasters, represented by John Stewart, served via ESERVICE at [jstewart@crowell.com](mailto:jstewart@crowell.com)

Joint Sports Claimants, represented by Michael E Kientzle, served via ESERVICE at [michael.kientzle@arnoldporter.com](mailto:michael.kientzle@arnoldporter.com)

Multigroup Claimants, represented by Brian D Boydston, served via ESERVICE at [brianb@ix.netcom.com](mailto:brianb@ix.netcom.com)

Public Television Claimants, represented by Ronald G. Dove Jr., served via ESERVICE at

rdove@cov.com

Signed: /s/ Edward S. Hammerman